

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 VO-03 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCA-01
CIAE-00 DODE-00 SY-05 SSO-00 INSE-00 DEAE-00
NEA-10 /044 W
-----055083 230959Z /10

O P 230920Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4021
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, TW, IS
SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ABOARD YUVALI

REFS: (A) TEL AVIV 4550, (B) TAIPEI 3679, (C) TAIPEI 3680

1. AMBASSADOR UNGER HAD ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY ON JUNE 23
TO TALK TO FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN ABOUT THE VIETNAMESE
REFUGEES ABOARD THE YUVALI AND INFORMED HIM OF THE SUBSTANCE
OF REF A.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN INDICATED THAT MOFA'S DIRECTOR
OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS (YU PENG) HAD ALREADY BEEN APPROACHED
BY THE LOCAL ZIM AGENT (ISRAELI SHIPPING FIRM) ON THE QUESTION
OF OBTAINING GROC PERMISSION TO LAND THE REFUGEES BRIEFLY
PENDING THEIR REMOVAL BY AIR TO ISRAEL. MOFA INDICATED TO
THE ZIM AGENT THAT THE GROC WOULD REPEAT WOULD GRANT THE
REFUGEES TEMPORARY ADMISSION UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES TO
PERMIT THEM TO MOVE DIRECTLY FROM THE PORT TO THE AIRPORT.
THE FOREIGN MINISTER REITERATED TO THE AMBASSADOR THE GROC'S
DESIJ TO BE OF HELP AND, IN ANSWER TO THE AMBASSADOR'S QUERY,
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SAID THAT AN ISRAELI CONSULAR OFFICIAL FROM TOKYO WOULD BE
WELCOME HERE, THE SOONER THE BETTER.

3. FOR TOKYO: REQUEST EMBASSY CONTACT ISRAELI EMBASSY
AND INFORM US OF THE NAME AND TRAVEL PLANS OF THE ISRAELI
CONSULAR OFFICER. WE WILL SUPPLY THIS INFORMATION TO THE
GROC, WHICH WILL INFORM THE EARA TO ISSUE APPROPRIATE

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS TO THE ISRAELI. UPON ARRIVAL IN TAIPEI, WE WILL, PER MOFA'S SUGGESTION, PUT THE ISRAELI CONSULAR OFFICER DIRECTLY IN TOUCH WITH MOFA'S BUREAU OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS, WHICH WILL ACT FOR THE GROC. WE SHARE THE GROC'S DESIRE TO MOVE QUICKLY IN THIS MATTER AND SUGGEST THAT EMBASSY TOKYO URGE THE ISRAELI EMBASSY IN TOKYO TO DISPATCH ITS CONSULAR OFFICER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

4. FYI: SHEN WAS CLEARLY ANXIOUS TO BE FORTHCOMING ON THIS ISSUE AND TOOK THE OCCASION OF MY CALL TO REVIEW THE ROC'S RECORD ON VIETNAMESE REFUGEES. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE ROC HAD CARED FOR OVER 4,000 REFUGEES FOLLOWING THE FALL OF THE SAIGON GOVERNMENT AND HAD GUARANTEED CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR THE MORE THAN 1,000 VIETNAMESE STUDENTS STUDYING IN THE ROC AT THAT TIME. IN ADDITION, SHEN SAID THAT THERE WERE 2,000 TO 3,000 PEOPLE CURRENTLY ON A VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT WAITING LIST TO COME TO THE ROC. A THOUSAND OF THESE HAD BEEN GIVEN TRAVEL DOCUMENTS BY THE ROC JUST BEFORE THE FALL OF SAIGON. ALL WOULD HAVE TO OBTAIN BOTH VIETNAMESE PERMISSION TO LEAVE AND ROC PERMISSION TO ENTER (SOMETHING SHEN SAID WAS BEING WORKED OUT THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS) BEFORE THEY COULD LEAVE VIETNAM. UNGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TAIPEI03734
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770224-0474
Format: TEL
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770625/aaaaavsl.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eef6ce77-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ORM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TEL AVIV 4550, 77 TAIPEI 3679, 77 TAIPEI 3680
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2052830
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIETNAMES REFUGEES ABOARD YUVALI
TAGS: SHUM, TW, IS, VS
To: TEL AVIV TOKYO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eef6ce77-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009